

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as is shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-25 (Cancelled)

26. (New) A content playback control method that controls a playback by decoding encrypted content only when a usage condition is met, using license information containing a content key and the usage key, the method comprising:

determining whether the usage condition specifies at least a playback based on playback control information; and

when the usage condition specifies at least the playback based on the playback control information, controlling a possibility and impossibility of a special playback in a section described in the playback control information, according to a restriction for the special playback described in the playback control information.

27. (New) The content playback control method according to claim 26, wherein the special playback comprises at least one of forward, skip and jump.

28. (New) The content playback control method according to claim 26, wherein the restriction for the special playback is described by a possibility/impossibility code.

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29. (New) The content playback control method according to claim 26,
wherein a section to which the restriction for the special playback applies is described on
a per-segment basis.

30. (New) The content playback control method according to claim 26,
wherein the license information manages the content key and the usage condition as a
pair.

31. (New) A content distribution server, comprising:
a license information generating section that generates license information containing a
content key for generating encrypted content by encrypting content and containing a usage
condition that specifies at least a playback based on playback control information describing a
section of the encrypted content and a restriction for a special playback of the section;
a content encrypting section that generates the encrypted content encrypting the content
by the content key; and
a communication section that transmits the license information generated in the license
information generating section and the encrypted content generated in the content encrypting
section.

32. (New) The content distribution server according to claim 31,
wherein the communication section transmits the license information as a pair of the
content key and the usage condition.

33. (New) The content distribution server according to claim 31, further comprising:
a playback control information generating section that generates the playback control information,

wherein the playback control information generating section describes a section to which the restriction for the special playback applies, in the playback control information, on a per-segment basis.

34. (New) A content playback control terminal that controls a playback by decoding encrypted content, only when a usage condition is met, using license information containing a content key and the usage condition, the terminal comprising:

a communication section that receives the license information and the encrypted content;

a decoding section that decodes the received encrypted content using the received content key; and

a playback control information processing section that, when the usage condition specifies at least a playback based on playback control information, controls a possibility and impossibility of a special playback of decoded content in a section described in the playback control information, according to the restriction for the special playback described in the playback control information.

35. (New) The content playback control terminal according to claim 34,
wherein the special playback comprises at least one of forward, skip and jump.

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36. (New) The content playback control terminal according to claim 34,
wherein the restriction for the special playback is described by a possibility/impossibility
code.

37. (New) The content playback control terminal according to claim 34,
wherein a section to which the restriction for the special playback applies is described on
a per-segment basis.